

Ethiopia
77-4356

19 MAY 1977

MEMORANDUM FOR: Deputy Director for Intelligence

FROM: Director of Central Intelligence

1. In Tuesday's New York Times there was an article titled, "Somalia Threatens War Over Afars-Issas Area." The gist was that President Siad threatened that he would go to war if Ethiopia invaded the FTAI after it becomes independent next month.

2. It seems advisable to me to do a quick and dirty estimate of the probability that war will break out. I would guess that in large measure this would be governed as much by the physical military capabilities of Ethiopia as by anything else. With their involvement with Eretria and the long distance from Addis Ababa I wonder what military capability they have approximate to the FTAI? And what we estimate their capability is to bring adequate military forces in from other areas on relatively short notice.

STANSFIELD TURNER

cc NIO

Reply
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